



Kaiser Sends Out Xmas Peace Message

MANY CASUALTIES OCCUR IN CALUMET REGION

SHOCKING ACCIDENT OCCURS

Two Whittings Youngsters Are Run Down On Bridge At Roby By Lake Shore Flyer; Third Escapes By Jumping.

(Special to The Times.)

ROBERTSDALE, IND., Dec. 24.—Two young lives were snuffed out in a sad and shocking accident at Roby on Saturday night about 8 o'clock while the third member of a little party miraculously escaped. Joe Bakus, Jr., 1407 Roberts avenue, Robertsdale, Andrew Palt, 1403 Roberts avenue and John Adam of the same address, and all twelve years of age, were gathered on their way home and on the Lake Shore tracks at Roby they were caught on the bridge by a C. & N. train with no way to avoid the on-coming flyer. The wheelbarrow in which they had their sacks was stuck between the ties and they failed to see the train. Bakus, Jr., was killed instantly, and was removed to Heyden's morgue. Palt had his left leg broken above the knee, and received a concussion of the brain. He was rushed to Dr. Newton's office and was later taken to St. Margaret's hospital where he passed away at 2 a. m. Sunday. Adams saved his life by jumping off the bridge.

The boys were all playmates and attended St. John's Slovak school. The accident has caused universal sorrow in the neighborhood.

The funerals will be under the direction of Undertaker Baran.

STEPS IN FRONT OF TRAIN, DEAD

About 6 o'clock yesterday morning while Dan Favi, 41 years old, 2901 Pennsylvania avenue, Indiana Harbor, was crossing Michigan avenue on his way to work, he stepped in front of a New York Central passenger train, west bound, and was instantly killed. Favi was a Roumanian and was employed at the Inland Steel company plant. His head and body were badly mutilated.

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT MAN DYING

Ignatz Gratkowski, 3735 Dearborn street, Indiana Harbor, his skull fractured and his left ankle broken, lies at the point of death at St. Margaret's hospital, Hammond, as the result of an automobile accident that took place at 8:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon on Michigan avenue, near 135th street.

Simon Shultman, 3733 Elm street, Indiana Harbor, was driving a Ford west on Michigan avenue, when at 135th street, he says, Gratkowski ran directly in front of his car. The victim was knocked violently to the ground. Shultman says he was driving 15 or 20 miles an hour. Gratkowski was taken to the office of Dr. Tegardner, who called Burns & McCuan and had him taken at once to the hospital. He is not expected to live.

RED CROSS LADY'S HOUSE ENTERED

The home of Mrs. N. J. Duggan at 551 May street was broken into Saturday afternoon while she was on duty at the postoffice selling Red Cross stamps and although the place was ransacked the intruder did not disturb \$111 of Red Cross money which presumably was the object of his visit. Mrs. Duggan had the money in a place of hiding which escaped detection.

Entrance to the house was gained by breaking down the frame of a door at the rear.

Sneak thieves operated among shoppers Saturday night in the department stores and one woman reported the loss of \$11, this despite the fact that the store had a force of house detectives at work constantly.

Corporal Ralph McClay, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. McClay, of Waltham street, will be their guest for several days. He is in the aviation corps stationed in Texas.

Sugar Trust Chief Denies Hoover Favored Him



Earl D. Babst, president of the American Sugar Refining Company, denied vigorously before a senate investigating committee that his company had been favored in any way by Food Administrator Hoover. His statement was in answer to allegations of Claus A. Spreckles, president of the Federal Sugar Refining Company.

HARBOR MAN HIT BY GARY STREET CAR

Jack Fiegle, 3414 Elm street, Indiana Harbor, is in Mercy hospital, Gary, in a serious condition as the result of an automobile being hit by a Hammond-Gary street car Saturday afternoon. Fiegle and Sam Cunningham in the latter's car had been in the south part of the county hunting and were returning to Indiana Harbor. At one of the crossings of the Hammond-Gary street car line, the automobile was struck and practically demolished.

Cunningham was stunned and badly bruised, but was picked up by a passing auto and taken to his home. Young Fiegle was so badly hurt, however, that the street car rushed him to the Mercy hospital, where he lay until Sunday morning unconscious. He was not identified at the hospital until some of the attendants noticed his name on the handle of his knife.

Jack Fiegle is a brother of George Fiegle, 3414 Grapevine street, Indiana Harbor. Just how the accident happened is unknown.

SUGGESTS SAVINGS BASKETS

(Indiana State Council of Defense.) INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 24.—The Indiana State Council of Defense joins with Dr. Harry E. Barnard, federal food administrator, in the endorsement of the sale by department stores and retailers of baskets of selected foodstuffs, which are designed to further the purpose of the United States food administration which is urging the conservation of wheat, fats, sugar and other staples. The baskets are especially recommended to clubs and charitable organizations, which have made the distribution of Christmas baskets a part of their holiday program each year.

Following are the contents of baskets that are being offered for conservation collections: string beans, corn meal, peaches, karo syrup, strawberries, Malaga, tomatoes, cantaloupe, honey, pumpkin, prunes, rolled oats, beans, mixed nuts, graham flour, navy beans, Crisco, Albacore, dates, apple butter, cherries, coffee, sardines, rice, corn flakes, buttermilk.

These foods are nourishing and wholesome and the food administration announces that their distribution represents the very highest form of patriotism, with no diminution of the Christmas spirit.

HAMMOND HIGH BASKETBALL DATES

The Hammond high school basketball schedule was announced by R. G. Rupp of the athletic board today as follows: Jan. 4—Crown Point at Hammond. Jan. 11—Lowell at Hammond. Jan. 18—Whiting at Hammond. Jan. 25—Whiting at Hammond. Feb. 1—East Chicago at East Chicago. Feb. 8—Crown Point at Crown Point. Feb. 15—Open date. Feb. 22—East Chicago at Hammond. March 1—Whiting at Whiting. March 8—Sectional tournament.

EXTRA SEVENTEEN KILLED IN PITTSBURGH

(By United Press.)

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 24.—Seventeen killed outright, a half score probably fatally injured, and from thirty to forty others hurt, was the toll this afternoon when a Knox-ville trolley car bound for downtown Pittsburgh jumped the rail. The car plunged through a crowd of people on the platform at the Water and Carsons streets waiting room and crashed through the station into an embankment. Refusal of all brakes to work on a down grade was given as the cause of the fatal mishap.

Santa is Warring for Allies

(By GEORGE MARTIN)

(United Press Staff Correspondent.) AT THE NORTH POLE, Dec. 24.—There wasn't a sign of life around Santa Claus' big reindeer barn when our correspondent at here about one o'clock this morning.

That was a bit surprising, too. Last year at this time there was a terrible hubbub around here. Old Santa himself, and Mrs. Santa and all the little boys and girls Santa Clauses tumbling around in the mountains of presents, getting them ready for Santa's big sleigh.

You couldn't see for the life of you how they were ever going to get everything tied up and loaded and racing off through the world on schedule time, but they did.

This year though it was all dark and quiet. Stumbling around through the cold, dark lanes among the presents your correspondent found his way to the door of Old Santa's great big barn. It didn't take very long, because somehow there didn't seem to be so many hills of presents as usual. Then the big barn door rolled back in answer to a knock and there stood Santa Claus himself, with a lantern in his hand.

"Hello there," said he in his big, gruff voice. "You here again? Come in."

"What's happened to you all up here?"

"You were as busy as bees and"

(Continued on page two.)

DON'T FORGET TO LIGHT UP STAR

Red Cross Service Flags In Hammond Will Number About 8000.

White stars in Red Cross service flags, will throw their mellow light from hundreds of Hammond home windows this Christmas eve. Hammond is way over the top in its great drive. Here is the last appeal from Dr. E. M. Shanklin, general manager of the drive: Eliminate the white star in the service flag tonight. It is the mark of distinction that every person in the home displaying it, is a member of the Red Cross. Illuminate the white star, but for the sake of fire prevention do not place a candle or kerosene lamp behind the flag. Instead use an electric light, or better still draw the curtains aside and let the light from the room illuminate the flag and the star.

The Red Cross workers report still a few who have been remiss in their duty toward the Red Cross. Either they are persons who could afford membership and have not joined, or such who have membership but have failed to display the flag.

Hammond's quota for the chapter should be 7498 members at the close of the drive, but indications this noon were that the 8000 membership mark would be passed.

NEWS NOT CONFIRMED.

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Advises to the state department today brought no information of a fire in the Krupp munitions works except unverified rumors in Holland. Dispatches to the department gave no additional details. London advises are that the original rumor was not circulated by the British admiralty wireless.

MANY CHRISTMAS TREES AT CAMP

(By United Press.) CAMP TAYLOR, Dec. 24.—About 125 Christmas trees were set up in barracks here tonight. Arrangements have been made for Christmas presents for all the men.

FIRST PHOTO SHOWS BRITISH ADVANCING ON CAMBRAI



British troops advancing over newly conquered territory on their way toward Cambrai.

The first photo to be sent in America of the British advances in the region of Cambrai shows machine guns, pack horses and cavalry advancing on a reserve line road through new territory captured in the fighting around Cambrai. It will be seen that an unusually large number of motor machine guns are going forward and these have been very effective weapons in the British victories on this front.

NOTICE.

There will be no edition of THE TIMES tomorrow because of the Christmas Holiday in accordance with all precedent.

THE POPE'S XMAS MESSAGE

(Copyright 1917 by the United Press.) ROME, Dec. 24.—Pope Benedict today sent to the people of America in a statement to the United Press through the papal secretary of state this Christmas message:

"The Holy Father sends to the people of America his cordial greetings and prays they may take to heart in this time of strife and suffering the true lessons of the Christmas-tide for mankind and the lesson of unflinching courage and sacrifice of self."

"More especially he calls upon the little children to whom this day of days belongs to pray with all their hearts to the babe of Bethlehem that he may protect their loved ones and give back to the world that peace which he came to bring upon earth."

CRUMPACKER APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR

(By United Press.)

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 24.—Governor J. P. Goodrich this morning announced that he had appointed Judge Harry L. Crumpacker of Michigan City, judge of the Laporte-Porter superior court, to try the Gary majority election contest.

RETAILERS BREEDING TROUBLE

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 24.—Chicago retailers are selling bakery wrapped bread at 8 cents for the one pound loaf according to advice received by Dr. Harry E. Barnard, Indiana Food Administrator, from the food administrator for Illinois. Jesse Throp, a baker at Geneva, Indiana, is retailing one pound loaves at two for 15 cents. Dr. Barnard says, Mr. Throp writes asking the "backing" of the state food administrator, as he says his price has met with "a lot of criticism." The food administrator has assured him of all the moral support he may require. A similar situation obtains relative to the retailing of bread in New Albany, according to advice reaching the food administrator.

Retailers who fail or refuse to meet the prices fixed by the food administrator in reference to bread, which are 7 cents per pound wholesale and 8 cents retail for unwrapped bread; 15 cents wholesale and 18 cents retail for bakery wrapped pound loaves; are in danger of finding their paths roughened and their business integrity impugned. Unless they "get right away," the food administrator says.

If You Think THE TIMES Is Doing Its Bit Your Support Is Always Welcome.

THE LATEST

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Three Tenth divisions of approximately sixty thousand men were literally cut to pieces by the Italians in the offensive against Colibretti, according to Rome dispatches today.

Commanders of the seventh and eighth Austrian brigades and the commander of the Fourth Austrian division have been seriously wounded.

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Secretary Baker is prepared to answer critics of the war department before the senate probe committee.

His testimony will show, officials declare, remarkable progress in all war work in the face of unusual conditions. Despite Baker's criticism of Gen. Crozier, General Sharpe is optimistic of developments. Baker will appear in person, probably later this week.

Senator Chamberlain today stated the committee will hear three major generals who have been in France, regarding conditions at the front. They will be asked to state whether the American troops there are well equipped or not.

(By United Press Cablegram.) Petrograd, Dec. 24.—American Ambassador Francis announced today he was preparing for publication throughout Russia an explanation of Red Cross efforts to send supplies by enemies of the Bolsheviks. The incident has brought tense relations between the Trotsky-Lenine government and the American embassy.

In a speech before a revolutionary gathering Trotsky formally charged the American government was seeking to aid his enemies. American Red Cross officials here denied the charges.

(By United Press.) A PACIFIC PORT, Dec. 24.—Shlika, a Russian freighter, the first Bolshevik ship to reach the U. S., may be shipped temporarily while custom officials investigate her status and inquire into the truth of the report that she brought \$100,000 in Russian gold to be used in the defense of I. W. W. members now under arrest in Chicago.

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—"Serious difficulties," between the imperial German government and the majority socialist have resulted from the conclusion of an armistice with Russian Mensheviks, the committee on public information learned today in a radio message from Lyons. "German military authorities are strongly opposing the socialist assembly and are doing all in their power to prevent an extension of the movement."

(By United Press Cablegram.) AMSTERDAM, Dec. 24.—The German federal council has approved Chancellor Hertling's Russian peace program, according to a Berlin dispatch today. Details were withheld.

(By United Press Cablegram.) BY JOSEPH SHAFER. CAMILLE BUYANSKY, Dec. 24.—The Belgian socialist leader who has been a prime mover in efforts to hold an international socialist peace gathering, told the United Press today the Bolshevik peace offers seemed likely to postpone indefinitely all hope for a peoples' movement for real peace.

(By United Press.) SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—Ten thousand workmen of four crafts in the Iron Trades Council, including men not engaged in building ships for the

MAYOR WILL SPEND XMAS IN GARY

Mayor R. O. Johnson will spend Xmas in Gary with his family instead of going to the home of his parents at Monroe, Ind., as has been his custom.

government, will go on strike in San Francisco Bay shipyards. They are demanding the 10 per cent wage increase granted by the emergency.

(By United Press Cablegram.) ROME, Dec. 24.—A strong Teutonic attack on the western sector of the Asiago plateau, especially at Muno and Monte Valbella, resulted in the penetration of the Italian lines by a portion of the enemy, the war office announced today. "Our artillery raked their advance, making heavy inroads upon them and they were forced to stop," it was announced. "Our troops counter attack is continuing satisfactorily. Along the Piave battalions executed a surprise attack and drove back a large portion of the enemy."

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Germany's insidious Christmas peace proposals should not for a moment induce us to slacken our preparations. Secretary of War Baker's weekly summary today voiced the warning pointing out clearly that Germany is now trying to knock Italy out of the fight while at the same time she is testing out the west front preliminary to a big offensive. He warned, too, that America's portion of the struggle is vast and that our armies constitute the reserve of victory.

(By United Press Cablegram.) LONDON, Dec. 24.—Reprise of hostile raids from several sections of the British sections of the British lines was reported by Field Marshal Haig today. "Southeast of Epheby yesterday afternoon," he said, "the enemy attempted a raid and was driven out. In the neighborhood of Mochy le Preux and west of Lannoe other hostile parties were repulsed."

(By United Press Cablegram.) LONDON, Dec. 24.—Russian Bolsheviks are dreaming a fantastic nightmare of peace at Brest Litovsk while fighting desperately at home to retain control, according to latest dispatches today. Petrograd was reported almost in a reign of terror. Soldiers from the garbion drunk with wines from looted shops indulged in the wildest rioting in the streets. Firing of machine guns and rifles was constant. The soldiers former a regular skirmish line in the Marie Theatre square and were not dispersed until after vigorous fighting in which Bolsheviks ran down scores with armored motor cars.

(By United Press Cablegram.) DICKY IS DEAD JUDGE IS GLAD Hammond Squire Can Now Have A Merry Xmas.

The celebrated canary bird is dead and Judge Frank Prest of Hammond has the laugh on two attorneys involved in the suit for possession of the feathering.

A week ago suit was filed by Attorney Phil Greenwald for Mrs. M. A. Manis, who sought possession of the bird, the odd one of five offspring of her gentleman canary bird and a lady bird owned by Mrs. U. G. Hinder, represented by Attorney Granger. An agreement had been entered into by the two women that they would divide the offspring evenly.

Judge Prest may order an inquest to learn how the bird came by its death, and on the other hand he may not. The judge postponed the trial a week and gave the bird an opportunity to pass out of this life without taking the time of a jury to decide its ownership.

(Special to The Times.) CROWN POINT, IND., Dec. 24.—The following new cases were filed in the circuit court.

12562—Receivership: Allman-Gary Title Co., a corporation (Pattee & Johnson) vs. Harbor Bldg Co., an Indiana corporation and Albert De W. Erskine.

HE WANTS PEACE SO BADLY

"Battering Iron First and Shining Sword" is Wilhelm's Peace Offer.

(By United Press Cablegram.)

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 24.—"If the enemy does not want peace then we must bring peace to the world by battering our iron fist and our shining sword," Kaiser Wilhelm declared in a speech to the second army. "Despite three years of war and suffering," the Kaiser continued, "our old offensive spirit is still effective. This is shown by our recent great victories in Flanders and at Cambrai where the arrogant British felt the crushing power of our blow."

The Kaiser extravagantly praised the tactics, strategy, valor of his troops on the west front. He referred to the defense against the attempt to advance towards Brussels as the most gigantic feat in history.

"The year 1917," the kaiser said, "has proved that the German people have in the Lord of Creation above an unconditional and a valid ally, upon whom they can rely absolutely."

"Without Him all would have been in vain."

The Kaiser's speech was made Saturday to the second army somewhere on the west front.

GIBSON UPSET BY CAR OF TURTLES

Don't be surprised of a nice big turtle walks in your house and begs for food.

Pigs are Pigs. And Turtles are Turtles. The systematic routine of the Gibson railway yards and offices have been all upset the past few hours because of embargoes, turtles and such things. And the problem isn't solved as yet.

Be it known that eastern roads have placed an embargo on all freight excepting live stock and perishable goods. One day last week the Chicago & Northern Indiana Harbor Belt that it had a car of turtles for eastern delivery. Now turtles aren't very live nor perishable and a lively debate ensued. Finally it was determined that they were legally both and on came the turtles, "Classed as live stock under the interstate commerce law they must be fed."

Some bright mind at Gibson declared turtles were meat eating and beef was purchased for them. This form of nourishment they refused, so corn was offered. It began to appear that turtles subsist on neither meat nor grain but ate things that were found in the soil. With that in view the turtles were let loose to graze at liberty. In consequence there is a turtle every two feet between Gibson and Hammond and every brakeman that goes home has one tucked under his arm.

18 GERMAN FLYERS TUMBLE

(By United Press Cablegram.) PARIS, Dec. 24.—From Dec. 21 to 23 French air fighters brought down eighteen German air crafts behind the German lines. The official statement many live bombing raids on stations and camps behind the enemy front.

NEW OFFENSIVE IN MACEDONIA

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Germany has started a powerful offensive in Macedonia, probably to anticipate the allied campaign about ready to begin. Along the Cerna river three violent attacks against positions held by Italians have been repulsed with heavy losses, official dispatches stated today.

NEW CASES IN CIRCUIT COURT

(Special to The Times.) CROWN POINT, IND., Dec. 24.—The following new cases were filed in the circuit court.